

# President's Message

As the world struggles through the virus pandemic consequences, including historic unemployment, civil unrest and a pending depression, new aviation historic milestones are being met, both bad and good for our future. At no time in our aviation history have so many commercial aircraft been put out of flight status (over 80% of ALL commercial airliners currently) due to the drop in air travel from the Covid-19 pandemic. How will this affect future aviation manufacturing, future air travel? On the positive side, during all this unrest the world witnessed the historic flight of the commercially owned SpaceX Crew Dragon spaceship, powered by the Falcon 9 rocket, that successfully lifted NASA astronauts Douglas Hurley and Robert Behnken into space and docked with the International Space station, on Sunday, May 31, 2020.



Victorville, Calif., April 25, 2020. (Photo by Sam Chui)

Both of these historic events will have long-reaching consequences for our aviation future. These events will provide new and unexpected vectors for aviation travel, space travel and exploration. Today's younger generation may never remember the thousands of missions, man hours and failures that led to routine manned space flights, or remember commercial air travel without health detectors or sanitized headrests.

But those of us that DO can record those kinds of aviation experiences, both successes and failures that are now part of history, in an aviation article in the *AAHS Journal*. Start your brain noodles working!

The AAHS office has continued operations in the office on a staggered day-shift, having just a few workers in the office at one time, to do bookkeeping, membership or library archives. It is keeping up our basic work tasks and we're moving slowly forward on bigger projects.

Speaking of bigger projects, **I will be standing down from the President's position at the end of the year, and we're currently looking for another AAHS volunteer to fill this role.** I'm excited to move AAHS forward on another project – to increase AAHS' social media presence, on Facebook, Instagram, and Youtube. Fortunately, the President's role going forward will be much less involved than when I became President, 10 years ago (gads, has it been that long?!!), as I will continue to do some functions that the new President will not have to take over (such as the Annual Meeting planning). It's been a very rewarding experience; I've met so many aviation enthusiasts who've enriched my life in more ways than I can count, and have become good friends. If you are interested in the AAHS President position, do please connect with me directly for more information at [prez@aahs-online.org](mailto:prez@aahs-online.org).

**Our Annual Meeting**, now scheduled for Oct 2-4, looks to be going forward as planned. We will likely take a few more steps to facilitate better hygiene, such as getting two buses instead of one- so we can spread out between seats, and having personal sanitizers for all etc. We will send out individual flyers to all members with complete information as we have it confirmed.

Stay healthy- Stay tuned for more history!

*Jerri Bergen*  
*AAHS President*



First manned launch of the Falcon 9 with Dragon crew capsule (NASA photo)